

Hawai'i
Arts
Alliance



A member of
the Kennedy Center
Alliance
for Arts Education
Network

April 10, 2009

To: Honolulu City Council
Budget Chair, Nestor Garcia
Council Chair, Todd Apo
Budget and Finance Committee

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CITY CLERK
HONOLULU, HAWAII

RE: OPPOSE MOCA'S PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS

Dear Chairs Apo and Garcia and Members of the Budget and Finance Committee:

The Hawai'i Arts Alliance opposed the proposed line item cut of \$172,500 to the Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts (MOCA) 2009-2010 Budget.

This new cut in budget line item 3006 is more than a 50% reduction to MOCA's programs. This represents a disproportionate share of cuts to arts & culture funding, and will eliminate or drastically reduce support to many Culture and Arts organizations in Honolulu. Many of these grants are awarded to subsidize community programs, and access to arts learning and engagement for our youth.

The Alliance's project *The ARTS at Marks Garage* was a recent recipient of one of these grants. In the last 9 months, these funds have helped the continued revitalization of Downtown/Chinatown and have helped to subsidize 140 events with over 700 presenting artists. These events attracted over 22,520 attendees who have impacted the economic stability of surrounding businesses - at least 40.

These funds contribute to companion education programs for many of the events at *Marks* reaching over 616 children, and engaging the participation of 73 community partners.

Please know that we, like many of our colleagues in the arts and culture sector already work with very little and that every small investment creates a BIG impact in our civic life, in education, and in a positive economic ripple effect.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Cristofori
CEO, Hawai'i Arts Alliance

Hawai'i State
Captain -
Arts Advocacy,
Americans for
the Arts



Visit our
Community
Project:
*The ARTS at
Marks Garage*
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